

Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

Thursday, July 31, 1980 Vol. 45, No. 20

Sign up now

The Complex blood drive begins the weeks of Aug. 11 for DPMC South and Aug. 18 for DPMC North. Donor cards will be accepted during the next two weeks. Send your cards through company mail to Blood Donor Program, Room 145, DPMC North Administration Building.

Parris will throw beeping ball for Bandits

By MARY ANN KREPS

Mark Parris, an engineer at Plant Engineering, slowly winds up his pitch and delivers the beeping ball across the plate. The batter cocks his bat and listens. CRACK...he hits the ball and runs toward the sound of the buzzing base.

Beeping balls and buzzing bases are all part of Parris' involvement with softball for the blind—"beepball." He has pitched two years for the Bayou Bombers, one of three blind beepball teams in Houston. By using beeping balls and buzzing bases, the blind can compensate for not seeing by listening.

Ironically, Parris will be pitching against the Bombers at Deer Park's Dow Field at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 7 and Aug. 14.

In conjunction with Complex and OCAW Local 4-367 United Way plans for "Special Days for Special People," he'll be playing for the DPMC Masked Bandits who'll try their luck for the second year against the Bombers. Last year, blindfolded players from the DPMC were blitzed 13-2.

Irv Skaar, DPMC North United Way co-chairperson, said Parris' pitching experience should help the Masked Bandits make a better showing this year against the Bombers.

Parris and his wife, Jeanne, began playing with the Bombers after becoming interested in the beepball program through her former job as a recreation therapist with Houston's parks department.

"The first day I met with these blind people, I was scared to death," Parris



Mark Parris, a beepball pitcher for the Bayou Bombers for two years, is warming up to pitch against the Bombers when he plays for the DPMC's Masked Bandits next month.

said. "I didn't want to say a word because I was afraid of saying things like 'did you see' or 'have you watched.' But I found the blind use everyday language, including words like 'see' and 'watch' and they have normal interests like sports, movies and books. Now if I'm ever at a party with a blind person, I know I'll be comfortable talking to him."

Beepball is played with two buzzing bases and a 16-inch softball equipped with a beeping device. The game's played on a regular baseball field, with five players on each team. However, because the pitcher is on the same team as batters, his goal is to get the batter a hit. In other words, the pitcher almost has to hit the bat, instead of vice versa. When the batter hits the ball, he scores a run if he gets to base before a fielder picks up the beeping ball.

Batters are allowed five strikes and

two pitches without swinging. There are three outs per half inning, like regular baseball, and the games are six innings long.

"The pitcher stands 20 feet from home plate which is pretty close compared to a regular game," Parris said. "The pitcher is only allowed to say two words—'ready,' when he's getting ready to pitch, and 'ball,' when he pitches. Ideally, the pitch should be a consistent height and speed. Hitting the ball is a matter of timing for a blind batter."

The pitcher, catcher and two spotters in the field are the only sighted players on a team. Spotters are allowed to call out the name or number of a team member to indicate which direction the ball is headed. "The beeping ball is for fielders," Parris said. "They field the ball by laying on it. Good fielders slide

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Need a checkup?

The Medical Department has good news for DPMC employees who need physical examinations.

Openings are available in the department's schedule to enable you to be examined quickly without much waiting. The department is particularly encouraging those who have not had a checkup in at least three years to come by the medical facility.

For more information or to schedule an examination, call 6431.

They'll take on Norco Sonics capture softball championship

Following grueling playoff games last week, the Sonics captured the SCORA softball championship and earned the right to take on Norco's team in the first annual Texas-Louisiana "Shootout" on Aug. 23-24 by defeating the Mongrels 9-3.

Behind the second place Mongrels, the Turkeys emerged from the playoffs in third place and the Jokers came in fourth.

Prior to the playoffs, overall division

standings for this season were:

Division I

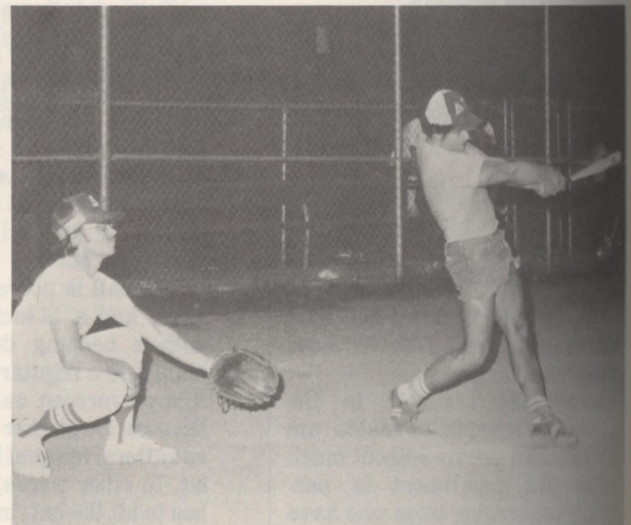
1. Turkeys (9-0)
2. U.S. Mongrels (8-1)
3. Los Locos (6-3)
4. Stix (5-4)
5. Bloopers (5-4)
6. Mean Machine (5-4)
7. Bad News (3-6)
8. Mullets (2-7)
9. Assassins (1-8)
10. Outlaws (1-8)

Division II

1. Sonics (9-0)
2. Jokers (7-2)
3. Teddy Bears (6-3)
4. Aces (5-4)
5. Jocks (4-5)
6. Chumps (4-5)
7. Misfits (3-6)
8. Bob's Bullets (3-6)
9. Super Heroes (3-6)
10. Bookies (2-7)



In their first photo as this season's DPMC softball champs, the Sonics pose at left with their first place trophies. Standing are John McDaniel, left, Larry Ayres, Eddie Gaines, D.D. Jones, Jimmy Cooper and Bill Ervin. On the bottom row are Don Jackson, left, Billy Vaughn, Joe Bibby, Jimmy Hassell, Steve Waltman and Fred Sondereger. Not shown is Sharkey McInnis. At the right Vaughn demonstrates the determination that carried the Sonics to the top by sliding into home plate as the Mongrels' David Palmer springs into action.



The Mongrels pose at left with their new second place trophies. Standing are Bob Chepulis, Curtis Justice, Bob Berger, Tom Edge, David Palmer, John Tunneli and Skip Yokum. On the bottom row are Rich Higgins, Ralph Sifuentes, Rupert Dominguez, Rufus Morse and Linden Wong. Not shown are Mike Franger and Paul Johnson. At the right, Morse gives it all he's got, swinging his bat as the Sonics' Steve Waltman serves as catcher.

Welcome to the Complex



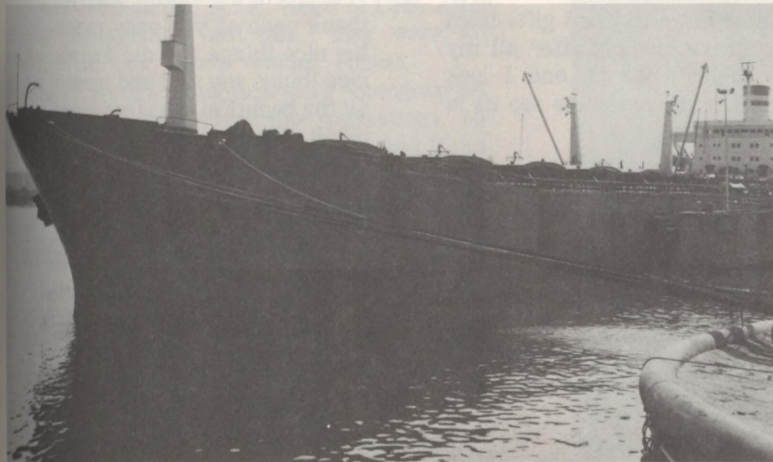
Bob Ball
General Helper
Maintenance North



Dee Lowery
Sr. Clerk
OP-III



Christine Nicknish
Engineer
Process Eng.



That's a long one

Believed to be the second longest ship ever to arrive at the DPMC, the Arica, an 832-foot Norwegian vessel, arrived earlier this month to unload 507,700 barrels of Mexican crude.



South UW committee

Shown here are members of the DPMC South United Way Drive committee, who are making fund-raising campaign plans. The bottom row includes J. Fontenot, left, Mike Shilling, Ed Saccomanno, Smokey Mather, Ed Olivier, Karl Hansen and Doug Johnson. Standing are Jim Steller, left, Omer Campbell, Ed Stanfield, Martina Martinez, Ken Nolen, Valerie Thompson, Sherri Hartley, Sandy Womack, Berry Scott, Ed Doe and John Reynolds. Members who are not shown include Ray White, Debra Shilling, John Schubert, Mike Collins and Yves Castaneda.

He will pitch...

Continued from Page 1
into the ball," he added.

Skaar recalled last year's game, where the Bandits floundered all over the field in an attempt to compete with the more experienced Bombers. He said, "you have to learn to run, bat and field blindfolded. Even the Astros couldn't play beepball well."

Out of Houston's three beepball teams, the Bayou Bombers are the "only strong team in the city," Parris said.

The Bombers won the Texas State Championship last year and came in second in the World Series—a competition between eight beepball teams from all over the country. The Masked Bandits' game against the Bombers last August helped raise money for the World Series trip.

Beepball as a whole is sponsored by Lighthouse for the Blind, which provides much of the equipment—a big help with beepballs costing as much as \$25 each. However, each team is basically on their own, Parris said.

The Bombers compete for this year's Texas State Championship at Rice University, Aug. 1-3. If victorious, they'll go to Fort Worth for the World Series Tournament.

"The main reason I play beepball is because it's fun," Parris said. "But there are other benefits. It's a two-way street. Blind people are so isolated, they don't understand the fears of sighted people. So it is important to have blind people and sighted people interdependent on each other in a team situation," he said.

"It's also gratifying because handicapped people have no outlet for competitive feelings. Beepball gives them an outlet to be competitive in a team-oriented way. Our players are good because they're pretty confident. They are motivated—they enjoy going to practice (three times a week) and working out," Parris said.

DPMC's Masked Bandits will make a noble effort to make up for last year's loss. However, Skaar has a realistic attitude about the upcoming games.

"We may get beaten by the Bombers. They're very good. They're also very special—they've come a long way. And it gives me a good feeling to know they feel comfortable with Shell people."

EDITOR'S NOTE: A student at University of Texas, Mary Ann is a summer intern at Shell Public Affairs.

Classifieds

FOR SALE

1978 Delta 88 Royal. Loaded. 18,000 miles. Pick up notes or refinance. Call 455-2085.

1978 VW Dasher. Four doors, automatic transmission, air, 20,000 miles, 25 miles per gallon. Excellent condition. Will consider trade for 14-foot-wide mobile home. Call 479-0188.

1978 Trans Van. Fully equipped. \$7,750. Call 991-5803.

1977 Olds Cutlass. 38,000 miles. \$3,350. Call 487-2769 any time.

1979 Z-28 Camaro. 27,000 miles. \$6,000. Call 482-5011.

Practically new red vinyl seat. From 1979 Ford Courier. \$75. Rear step bumper. \$50. Call 472-1967.

Trailer. 4x8x3. \$300. Short bed camper cover. \$200. Make offer. Call 487-2261.

1972 Tejas travel trailer. Fully self-contained. Very good condition. Tires have less than 2,000 miles on them. \$2,000. 1972 Scamper camper. Very good condition. \$1,000. Call 476-5560 or 472-2666.

Fifteen-foot Cobia boat. 50 HP Johnson, neat leather seats, tilt trailer. Excellent condition. \$1,795. 3-2-2 house. Large family room, 19x23 gameroom, covered patio, new air conditioning and roof. Call 487-0001.

Four rooms of gold sculptured carpeting and quality padding. In very good condition. \$50 a room or \$150 for all. Adjustable wrought iron fireplace screen with mesh curtains. \$25. Left windshield wiper for 1977 Toyota. \$15. Front and saddle baskets for bicycle. \$10. Call 471-5365.

Spanish bedroom suite. King-sized headboard and frame, triple dresser with twin mirror and chest on chest. \$200. Three-piece Mediterranean living room suite. \$175. Call 644-8560.

Seven-eighths inch oversize slate pool table. With leather pockets. Must see to appreciate. \$4,500 or best offer. Call 471-8275.

Two parakeets. One blue and one yellow. Beautiful blue cage. All accessories and food. Paid \$62 for all. Will take \$25. Firm. Call 475-2333.

PERSONAL

The retirement party and gifts from all was a great send-off after all my years at Shell. Willie B. and I look forward to having you come see us in Brenham.

—Leroy Hurry

Thanks to all my friends at Shell for such a wonderful retirement party, gifts and money. The money was spent for some porch furniture for our cottage at Livingston. The beautiful scroll and pictures taken at the party will always help me to remember my friends and co-workers at Shell. I am very grateful. Thanks to all.

—C.K. Cook

The years that I have worked with you—the good times as well as the bad—are remembered when I see your names on the beautiful plaque. It's a pleasant and good feeling to have so many friends. The retirement party was nice. Betty and I enjoyed everything so much. Come and see us when you can.

—H.A. Wigley

Thanks to all my friends at Shell for my many great gifts and farewell celebration. I'm still in Houston, so

please keep in touch.

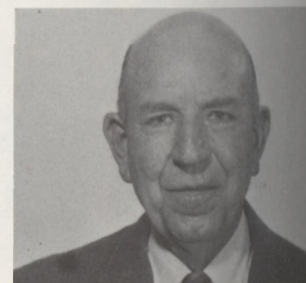
—Mary Faye Sherman

The wonderful party given for me upon my retirement will always be a happy memory. Many thanks to all of those who made it a success, for all the gifts and I want all those who participated in the gift of money to know it was well spent on the purchase of a chain saw. We treasure the friends we have made at Shell and look forward to continued friendships.

—Dick and Shirley Hunt

To all of you that made our retirement a pleasant one: We want to thank each of you very much—for all the nice things you did for me, all the nice things you said and most of all, for all the beautiful gifts that mean so very much. Thank you.

—Joe and Dorothy Clary



DPMC retiree dies

C.L. Hanna, a retiree who formerly worked at Distilling, died July 19. Funeral services were held at First Methodist Church in Dickinson under the direction of Jack Rowe Funeral Home of League City. Burial was at Grace Memorial Park at Alta Loma.

He is survived by his wife, Josephine, who resides at 5017 Winding Way, Dickinson.

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